

Stocks rise on polls

Dhaka stocks jumped yesterday amid investors' increased participation in trade on expectations the market would be vibrant under an elected government next year.

Investors have started injecting idle money into the market ahead of the year-end polls, according to market experts.

"The investors are probably taking positions on securities as they are optimistic about a better market next year under an elected government," said Arif Khan, general manager of IDLC.

The benchmark index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, DSE General Index, went up 72.92 points, or 2.89 percent, to 2,590.95 points. The DSE All Share Price Index also shot up 61.71 points, or 2.96 percent, to 2,145.71 points.

Yesterday's rise was also heavily driven by

financial and fuel and power sectors, as the two major political parties in their election manifestos emphasised the power sector, market insiders said.

By the end of trade, the DGEN gained 73 points from the previous trading day. A total of 1,75,62,721 shares worth Tk 247.07 crore changed hands on the premier bourse.

Most securities traded up. Of the 223 traded issues, 196 advanced, 21 declined and six remained unchanged.

Chittagong stock also posted a sharp gain. The CSE Selective Categories Index rose 145.06 points, or 2.82 percent to 5,290.37 points, while the CSE All Share Price Index increased 222.52 points, or 2.81 percent, to 8,129.16 points.

A total of 30,57,695 shares worth Tk 32.55 crore changed hands on the Chittagong Stock Exchange.



Shafiq Uddin, director of Bank Asia, inaugurates the bank's 33rd branch at Bahadherhat, Chittagong yesterday. Syed Anisul Haq, president and managing director, was also present.

Arab investors to take over Luxembourg subsidiary

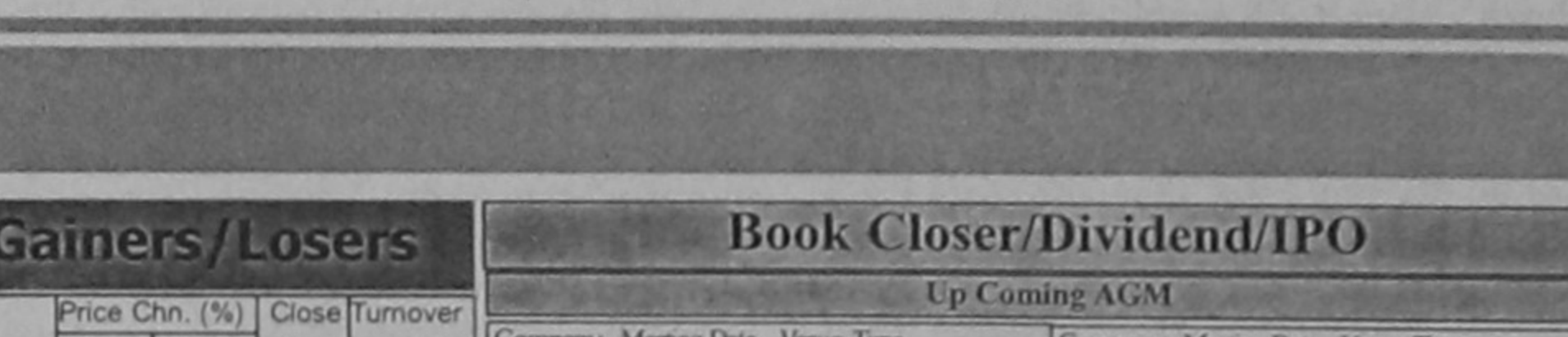
Luxembourg's government has confirmed an agreement for a consortium of Arab investors to take over the local subsidiary of embattled Icelandic bank Kaupthing.

"Besides the signature of the Belgian state, this agreement needs the acceptance of the creditor banks," the government said in a Saturday statement of the declaration of intention by several Arab investors to take over Kaupthing Luxembourg, which it signed the day before.

"The state of Luxembourg along with the Belgian state and creditor banks will participate in granting credit to the bank so it can continue to function and completely reimburse its depositors," the statement added.

Kaupthing Luxembourg was placed in suspension of payments on October 9 following the collapse of Iceland's once-booming financial sector under the weight of the worldwide credit crunch.

Deposits in both Luxembourg and Belgium have been frozen ever since.



Eastern Bank Managing Director Al Reza Iftekar inaugurates the bank's 32nd branch at Keraniganj, Dhaka recently.

STOCK

Market Highlights December 21, 2008

Table with 2 columns: Index and Change. Includes DSE All Share Index (+2.89%), DSE General Index (+2.90%), DSE -20 Index (+3.56%), CSE All Share Index (+2.81%), CSE -30 Index (+2.94%), and CSE Selected Index (+2.82%).

Turnover Leaders

Table with 4 columns: Company, Turnover (Vol.), (M.Tk.), (% T), and Big Lot Share. Lists top performing companies like ACI Formulations Ltd., Beximco Pharma, and Titas Gas TDCIL.

Capital Gainers/Losers

Table with 4 columns: Company, Price Chn. (%), Close Price, and Turnover. Lists companies like Rupak Bank, Renwick Jayneswar, and National Bank.

Shipping

Charting position and performance of vessels as on 21/12/2008

Table with 10 columns: Berth No, Name of vessels, Cargo call, L Port, Local agent, Date of arrival, Leaving, Import disch. Lists various shipping companies and their vessels.

Vessels at Kutubdia

Table with 4 columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last port, Local agent, Date of arrival. Lists vessels at Kutubdia.

Outside port limit

Table with 4 columns: Pesut-i, Pet Mat, Sice, Ibsa, Date of arrival. Lists vessels outside port limit.

Vessels at outer anchorage

Table with 4 columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last port, Local agent, Date of arrival. Lists vessels at outer anchorage.

Vessels ready

Table with 4 columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last port, Local agent, Date of arrival. Lists vessels ready.

Vessels not ready

Table with 4 columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last port, Local agent, Date of arrival. Lists vessels not ready.

Vessels awaiting employment / instruction

Table with 4 columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last port, Local agent, Date of arrival. Lists vessels awaiting employment.

Vessels not entering

Table with 4 columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last port, Local agent, Date of arrival. Lists vessels not entering.

Positions of Chittagong Port vessels in line with the berthing sheet of CAPA provided by ITC

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News from Trade Servers

BENGLAFINE: As per audited accounts as on 30.06.08, the Company has reported net loss of Tk. (14.34) m. with EPS of Tk. (22.06) as against Tk. (61.95) m. and Tk. (95.31) respectively as on 30.06.07. Net sales of the company was Tk. 2.62 bn. as on 30.06.08 as against Tk. 2.62 bn. as on 30.06.07.

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Book Closer/Dividend/IPO

Table with 4 columns: Company, Meeting Date, Venue, Time. Lists upcoming AGM meetings for various companies.

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Source: Capital Gainers/Losers tables are prepared on the basis of the close price change of the traded issues. EPS-Earning per Share, BV-Book Value per Share, ** indicates CDRB Listed Category is mentioned beside company name after CDRB mark. All EPS & BV are calculated in (approximate) values. Year-on-year percentage change is declared in (approximate) values. Year-on-year percentage change is declared in (approximate) values. Year-on-year percentage change is declared in (approximate) values.